JOURNAL OF Semittic Studies

VOLUME LXX. NO. 1 SPRING 2025



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US Postmaster: send address changes to *Journal of Semitic Studies* (ISSN 0022-4480), Oxford University Press, Central Mailing Services c/o UKP Worldwide, 1637 Stelton Road B2, Piscataway, NJ 08854.

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Typeset by Drukkerij Peeters, Herent, Belgium.

Printed by Bell & Bain Ltd, Glasgow, UK.

Semitic Studies

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FIVE EARTHENWARE MANDAIC INCANTATION BOWLS IN ĀBGĪNE MUSEUM, TEHRĀN

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Abstract

This article presents the *editio princeps* of the Mandaic texts of five incantation bowls housed in Ābgīne Museum, Tehrān (627–S, 626–S, 110–S, 109–S and 108–S). Presumably dated to the 6th-7th centuries, the texts include protective formulae and name of the clients for whom they were written. The texts of 627–S and 626–S are written in a spiral manner, 110–S and 109–S are written in four segments and 108–S, which includes some of the earliest attested evidence of *šapta d-pišra d-ainia*, with the text arranged as a spoke, like sunrays.

Introduction*

The Glassware and Ceramic Museum of Iran also known as Ābgīne Museum (hereafter ĀM), located in Tehrān, has preserved a number of historical and contemporary facial arts, including five earthenware Mandaic incantation bowls. In 2021, a graduate student of Āzād University in Tehrān informed me about these Mandaic bowls but the images were not available till 2022. ĀM labeled these bowls as earthenware Mandaic Bowls, which are unglazed and wheel-thrown, and allocated them the numbers 627–S, 626–S, 110–S, 109–S and 108–S.¹ According to information given by ĀM, these bowls were discovered

- * I would like to thank Ṭannāz 'Aḥadī-Moḡaddam, Fāṭeme Farhangī-Nīyā & Majid Niknafs for their photographs of the bowls. My appreciation is extended to Nawīd Ṣāleḥwand and Zohre Moḥammadyān Moḡayer (Katāyun) from Ābgīne Museum for their constructive assistance as well as Aaron Michael Butts, Rāḍīye Solṭānī Tehrānī, Leylā-Sādāt Sajjādī Hezāve and Sūsan Reḍāyī, who gave me some valuable materials. My thanks also go to the anonymous reviewers for their valuable suggestions and comments which have made a significant contribution to the draft. Last but not the least, I'm really grateful of Erica C. D. Hunter for her sympathetic support, valuable comments as well as correcting the English text of the article. All errors are my own responsibility.
 - ¹ S is an abbreviation for Persian Sofāl 'earthenware'.

in Šuštar.² Three of five bowls are displayed in the museum's Seashell Hall and the other two are housed in the $\bar{A}M$ depot and cannot be accessed by visitors. The identification information reveals that 108–S, 109–S & 110–S were purchased by $\bar{A}M$ in 1355–11–19 AH = 1977–02–08 AD from an unknown person and 626–S and 627–S were donated to $\bar{A}M$ in 1377 AH = 1998 AD. They have the following ID numbers, and dimensions.

	ID	ĀM ID	Rim diameter	height	Base diameter	content	statistics
1	ĀM.1	627–S	15.3–15.9 cm	7.9 cm	6.2 cm	6 circles	~ 45 words
2	ĀM.2	626–S	18.2 cm	6.3 cm	6 cm	13 circles	~ 85 words
3	ĀM.3	110–S	14.5–15.3 cm	7–7.4 cm	6 cm	63 lines	~ 155 words
4	ĀM.4	109–S	21.5 cm	6.7–7.4 cm	6 cm	60 lines	~ 185 words
5	ĀM.5	108–S	13.7–14.2 cm	8.2 cm	6.4 cm	52 lines	~ 115 words

In 2004, Farzāne Qāyinī made a catalogue of the glassware and earthenware in the ĀM. She gave a short introduction and a Persian translation of ĀM.2, accompanied by two photographs of ĀM.4.³ In 2012, Rāḍīye Solṭānī Tehrānī based her BA thesis on the Mandaic bowls, looking at texts presumed to be made in Iran including those housed in the ĀM.⁴ The Mandaic texts are written with ink on the inner side of the bowls, but in ĀM.4, the text continues on the outer side. ĀM.2 and ĀM.3 have added some words on the outer side.

All of the texts of the bowls are enclosed between two circles (one at the rim of the bowl, the other in the centre). This arrangement may represent the binding of demons between the two circles,⁵ indeed as it was common in Iran until recently for people to draw a circle around a person who had epilepsy, as a way to keep what was perceived to be a 'demon' that was understood to possess the person, contained (and therefore could also not 'infect' others).

² Šuštar, a Mandaic settlement in southern Iran, today a town in <u>Kuzestān</u> province, Iran. Šuštar is not necessarily the place of the bowls production and the text does not indicate where they were produced. However, it is quite probable that they were the products of a local potter.

³ See F. Qāyinī, *muzey-e Ābgine va Sofālinehay-e Īrān* (Tehran: Research Institute of Cultural Heritage & Tourism, 2004), 64–65 [in Persian].

⁴ See R. Solṭānī Tehrānī, *pažuhešī pirāmun-e sofālinehāy-e Mandāyi* (University of Kāšān: BA thesis in handicrafts: Earthenware and Ceramics, 2012) [in Persian].

⁵ Cf. N. Vilozhny, *Lilith's Hair and Ashmedai's Horns: Figure and Image in Magic and Popular Art: between Babylonia and Palestine in Late Antiquity* (Jerusalem: Ben Zvi Institute, 2017), 32–35 [in Hebrew].

The sections that follow present a transcription, translation, short commentary and parallel writings. Please note the following standards in the Mandaic text (after Matthew Morgenstern and Ohad Abudraham): Uncertain readings are given as grey letters, e.g. a or o; breaks in the source and reconstructions are marked with square brackets, e.g. [a] or [o]; superlinear insertions are marked with carets, e.g. ^a^ or ^o^; and scribal erasures are marked with strikethrough, e.g. thuil or **thube*.

1. ĀM.1 (627–S)

The text on ĀM.1 says that it was made in the name of *Sanipāw son of Košnām (L.3). It is constituted by a Mandaean script written in ink on an unglazed earthenware bowl, in a continuing spiral from the centre of the bowl, with the text enclosed between two circles. The text begins at the small circle in the centre and ends at the rim where it is enclosed by a wavy line (maybe like a snake?). The bowl is well preserved, but some words are unclear (L.2 & 3).



Fig. 1. ĀM. 1 from three perspectives; Photo by ĀM

1.1. Text and translation

Transcription L অধ্বেধ স্মান্দা |বন্ধ 1 অত্তিধ্ব আন্ত্ৰ স্বিত্ত স্থিত। 2

L Translation

- 1 Armed and sealed is the house,
- 2 the wife, the sons, the daughters, the animals, the property of

L

Transcription

०९सस्स ०९सण् ०९सण्य स्वीयोग्धि स्त १०४८ण् ९९

- ०८४५५० ०८स्८० व्योक्यक्ष्य व्यावस्य ८८५५
- ०कण्० ०८त्वयमः ०८समः ०८५५ ८८मा ०८५५मः ०५०८५ १८ व्या
- میرس کیرس در هدهمی میری میرسی کیرسی کیرس در هدهمی هدر هداشت.

Translation

- 3 *Sanipāw son of Košnām. Bound are the demons in shackles
- 4 of the Liliths. In the chains are bound the bewitching male devils (and) are bound
- 5 the bewitching female Liliths who reveal dreams, illusions and apparitions to human beings
- 6 and the evil mysteries which injure these souls. And may there be healing to these souls.

1.2 Commentary

- L.2: Due to the similarity between 되 and 교 as well as 모 and 되 in the Mandaean cursive script written on incantation bowls, it seems ૰<* 오구무유구 is a scribal mistake for ૰<* 모르고구 'in shackles' (Cf. A.O. 14.963:3, HS 3021:3, HS 3025:4, VT 1981.8:4, etc.).
- L.3: The name of snipau is not legible; its initial letter can be read as a but the appendix next to it is too low in height to be -i- (cf. 40 vs. ...). The letter between np presumably is a, i or u, thus this name can possibly read as *Sanipāw which is derived from an MP form of OIr. $\sqrt{\text{sna}}$ 'to wash' + pāw 'pure, clear' and presumably means '(one who is) pure by washing', 6 cf. Arabic Ṣobba/Ṣobbī 'a Mandean' 7 and Mənaqqəda 'who purifies himself'. 8
- L.3: kušnam Košnām consists of the MP xwaš 'pleasant' + nām 'name' which means '(one who has) a good fame'. Cf. kušduk 'a pleasant daughter' of xwaš 'pleasant' + dux < duxt 'daughter' in BM 91728:459 as well as JBA IM 212103:1 kwšyzq of MP xwašīzag. 10

⁶ Other possibility is that like *madda* '> *manda* ', this word is the MPersianized form of *Sobba* > **Sonba* > *Sonpā*(w).

⁷ From Mandaic √SBA II 'to immerse', See MD, 388b.

Mentioned by Theodore Bar Koni, Scholion, Mēmrā 11 under title שבים זה "The heresy of the Manichaeans' which relates: גלב מבס 'and the heresy of Mənaqqədē, he learned at first', See A. Scher, (ed.) Theodorus bar Kōnī: Liber Scholiorum (Wiesbaden: Otto Harrassowitz, 1910), 311 ff..

⁹ See *CAMIB*, p. 127 [96M].

¹⁰ See J. N. Ford, & M. Morgenstern, *Aramaic Incantation Bowls in Museum Collections* (Vol. I The Frau Professor Hilprecht Collection of Babylonian Antiquities, Jena), (Leiden: Brill, 2020), 73 fn.263.

L.6: In some instances, recorded in the bowls and amulets, the second consonant of triliteral root of ḤWY has disappeared¹¹ and ĀM.1 has also **thlun** rather than **thuilun**.

1.3. Parallels in other Mandaic bowls¹²

- L.2 vs. BM 91724:1.13.¹³
- L.3-6 vs. A.O. 14.963:3-9.14
- L.3–5 vs. Moussaieff 95:11–12.¹⁵

2. ĀM.2 (626-S)

The bowl is in general well preserved but a small piece at the end of lines 8–10 is missing. The text on the bowl is in Mandaean script (ink on an unglazed bowl), and is written in a continuous spiral from the middle of the bowl. The text starts at a small circle in the center of the bowl and ends at a circle at the bowl's rim. Lines 1–10 are enclosed between these two circles, but three short lines (lines 11–13) are written vertically on the outer wall of the bowl.

A striped scorpion (Mandaic arqba)¹⁶ is painted within the line before the end,¹⁷ and a crescent is pained on the top of the bowl

- ¹¹ See O. Abudraham, *A Grammar of Early Mandaic* (Jerusalem: The Academy of the Hebrew Language, 2022), 391 [in Hebrew].
- ¹² See more parallel bowls, J. N. Ford, & M. Morgenstern, *Aramaic Incantation Bowls in Museum Collections*, 196.
 - ¹³ published in *CAMIB*, 116 [88M].
 - ¹⁴ published in *MIT*, 212 [Bowl 17].
- ¹⁵ published in M. Morgenstern, 'Five Mandaic Magic Bowls from the Moussaieff Collection', in Sh. Ahituv, H. Cotton & M. Morgenstern, *Eretz-Israel: Archaeological, Historical and Geographical Studies* 34 (Ada Yardeni volume), (Jerusalem: The Israel Exploration Society, 2021), 115 [in Hebrew].
- ¹⁶ 'The Mandaean Book of the Zodiac'—known as *Asfar Malwašia*—considered *arqbia* as equal with evil vermin; AM:182 *arqbia urihšia bišia* 'scorpions and evil vermin'. At the same time, having a reptile as a noxious creature in the bowl instead of humanoid demons, may represent Iranian perceptions of the scorpion. Cf. MP *xrafstar* 'reptile, noxious creature'.

It's also noteworthy that <u>K</u>uzestān province has the largest and most diverse kinds of scorpions in Iran; some of which have deadly stings.

¹⁷ Other instances of scorpion depiction: MS 2054/98 is a Mandaic bowl from Martin Schøyen Collection and a scorpion is depicted in its outer part, See N. Vilozhny, *Lilith's Hair and Ashmedai's Horns*, 369 [in Hebrew]; MS1928/21 is a Jewish Babylonian Aramaic bowl from Martin Schøyen Collection and scorpion is depicted in its inner and center part, See N. Vilozhny, *Lilith's Hair and Ashmedai's*, 356. Naama Vilozny pointed out that the scorpion has a magical conception or power and is used for protection in the Gnostic religions and especially for the Mandaean

which is presumably either the scorpions' pincer or a round bracket which sometimes marks the end of a spell on Mandaic bowls (Cf. < in Moussaieff 139:14,19,24,28 as well as Moussaieff 154:13 and << in BM 91724:1.9) and located following L.8 uhiia zakh (Fig. 2).



Fig. 2. ĀM.2. Striped scorpion and its 'crescent'

AM.2 declares that it was written for a female whose name is written in three different ways including L.3 Gušnaṣp-<prid>, L.7 Gušnaṣp-<prid> and L.9 Gušnaṣp-<aprid>. Although L.7 priad can represent MP frayād 'help, assistance' more possibly her right name is Gušnaṣp-Āfrīd 'blessed by Gušnaṣp' whose mother name is Šišin.



Fig. 3 AM. 2 from three perspectives; Photo by AM

is used on the rings as well as incantation bowls, See N. Vilozhny, *Lilith's Hair and Ashmedai's Horns*, 66–67. Mandaean rituals use a ring attached to a chain called *sekkin dowlā* (Mandaic *sikina d-daula*), there are four animals engraved on the ring including a lion, a scorpion, a bee and a snake. It is used in three ceremonies—birth, marriage and death—to protect the newborn, bride/groom and deceased respectively, See A. 'Askarī, *Mandā īyat: dīn-e towḥīdīy-e bāstānī* (Ahvaz: Tarava publication, 2015), 242–244 [in Persian].

¹⁸ Cf. Hōm-Frayād, See P. Gignoux, Noms propres Sassanides en moyen-perse épigraphique, 97 [n.442].

¹⁹ Cf. Arz-āfrīd, Mihr-āfrīd and Ohrmazd-āfrīd as well as Gušnasp-dād, See respectively P. Gignoux, *Noms propres Sassanides en moyen-perse épigraphique*, 48 [n.140], 126 [n.628], 139 [n.704] and 96 [n.413].

2.1. Text and translation

Transcription L Translation

Inner Bowl

- معلیص مدیب دد محانمه
- מלקש החום הליגאן סונושא הלקש החום הליגאן
- مسا ۲دموجمه علی عادظی کیسم/مفتح
- مامحات بامحات دد مرده سماخه مصاحه بامحات
- ०९२०१०स वृर्भ भवुर्भ स्रवित स् ८ व्यक्त भवस्य व्यवस्य व्यवस्य
- चत्तरुष्ठे १८२ सम्क सक्षेत्र १८५८५ । स्ट १८४८ १८० १८५८ ।
- ८८ फरवस्तक प्रथ मु०८स्व फरवस्तक्र ८८क्षेत्रक प्रथा मु०८स्व वस्य व्यवस्य
- [scothion] < حذه ا هجر حدمطح عمجم محرمجم حددمطح عمجم محمد محمد محرصه محرسة محرسة محرسة المرمسة المرمس
- ارد کا میر علی در حاره در کرمی میر علا (جس عطب علی) در عدالت علی در علی میرسم میرسم ایرسی ایرسی
 - [۲۸] کام ۲۸ کی دد صحابهمج

- 1 In the name of Life, may there be healing
- 2 for the house, the dwelling, the residence, and the building of
- 3 Gušnaṣp-(Ā)frīd daughter of Šišin. Be expelled and driven out
- 4 the eye that envied (and) hungered, envied, envies the gods
- 5 of the house, and hungered, hungers the sons of Adam, deceived, deceives in the heights.
- 6 I adjure you (f.) and put you (f.) under oath by Bēl and Nabu and Nirig. Be expelled and disappear from the body,
- 7 the house, the dwelling, the residence, the building of Gušnaṣp-Āfrīd daughter of Šišin, in the names of
- 8 these angels. Write on a [in the bo]wl of the clay and bury in the exterior gate, Life is victorious, > [scorpion]
- 9 May there be healing for the h[ouse, the dwelling, the resid]ence, and the building of Gušnasp-Āfrīd daughter of Šišin,
- 0 in the name of 'Yes, Yes and A[men]'.

Outer Bowl

– ਕਸਕਘ 11 The sealing – ਪੁੱਧ ਪੁੱਧ ਕਮਤਾ 12 of the house ਕਪ੍ਰੰਘ ਕਮ 13 (of) Life

2.2 Commentary

L. 3, 7 & 9: Although Gušnaṣp is a male name, in ĀM.2 with its second part either as L.3 prid, or L.7 priad, or L.9 aprid followed by pt 'daughter of' it represents a female name, ²⁰ Cf. T28002:4, 13, 15 gušnaṣ br šišin. ²¹ Gušnaṣp comes from an MP form of OIr. vṛšna-aspa-

²⁰ The scribe of a lead scroll erroneously wrote at its end **gušnaṣp pt pridrmi**[ṣ] for **gušnaṣp br pridrmi**[ṣ], See C. Müller-Kessler, 'Aramäische Koine—Ein Beschwörungsformular aus Mesopotamien', *Baghdader Mitteilungen* 29 (1998), 341 [L.23].

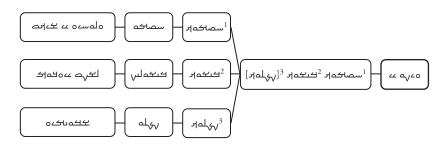
²¹ See J. N. Ford & O. Abudraham, 'Syriac and Mandaic Incantation Bowls', *ADCA Reports: The Antiquities Department of the Civil Administration* 1 (2018), 103–104.

'(who has) male horses' and Āfrīd from an MP form of ā.frī.ta- 'blessed'. This name is also attested in JBA incantation bowls by omission of the middle a and final t as gwšnsppry (read as Gušnasp-fri) in some instances including JBA 23 (MS 2053/206:5), JBA 37 (MS 2053/123:2, 5, 8), JBA 59 (MS 2053/174:5, 7).²²

L. 3, 7 & 9: Šišin is possibly an Iranian name.²³

L.4: Cf. Moussaieff 24:12 & 13 mentions aina bišta. It is possible that aina is the referent of the clitic pronouns of the adjuration verbs in L.6 of ĀM.2, and that it is ordered to be expelled and to disappear with pšr and puq as imperative verbs rather than Moussaieff 24:13 tipšrai and tipqai, YM 1:2:4 pšar and puq.

L.4–5: The occurrences of a perfect peal following into an imperfect peal may shows a literary use of tense which means in the past it did, in the present it is still doing, but by this amulet there is a wish and prayer to not continue in the future. So, it seems the complete sentence should be like this:



In ĀM.2 there is a triad of 'the Gods of the house' i.e. the idols, 'the sons of Adam' i.e. humans and 'the heights' i.e. the angels, while in its parallel, Moussaieff 24:12, there is a doubling of 'the Gods' and 'the sons of Adam and Eve'. The entire line is translated differently by Matthew Morgenstern.²⁴

²² See S. Shaked, J. N. Ford & S. Bhayro, *Aramaic Bowl Spells: Jewish Babylonian Aramaic Bowls* (MRLA, 1) (Leiden: Brill, 2013), 135, 185, 260–261.

²³ J. A. Montgomery, *Aramaic Incantation Texts from Nippur* (Philadelphia University Museum, 1913), 219–220.

M. Morgenstern, 'Five Mandaic Magic Bowls from the Moussaieff Collection', 111 [in Hebrew]:

- L.5: Bēl, Nabu and Nirig resembles the Mesopotamian triad of Marduk, Nabu and Nērgal,²⁵ also found in Moussaieff 24:13, 45:12.²⁶
- L.8: At the end of the line and the formula, but before the scorpion, the word is written as **uhiia** zakh. It represents the phenomenon of spelling h instead of h; there are other instances of this in the epigraphic corpus.²⁷
- L.10: 'yn 'yn uam[in] is also known from Syriac incantation bowls, אין "Yes and Amen" which considered as a 'liturgical formulae and doxology'28. It is also found in JBA incantation bowls אין ואמן and considered as a 'magic name' or 'word of power'29 and here it has become a supreme power that the sentence ends with his name.

2.3 Parallels in other Mandaic bowls

- L.1–3 vs. Ashmolean 1930.41:1–4;³⁰
- L.3–6 vs. Moussaieff 24:12–13³¹; Amulet MS 2087/13 palimpsest recto part VII:11–28;³²
- L.6–8 vs. Amulet MS 2087/13 palimpsest verso part VIII:1–7;³³
- ²⁵ In Mandaic *haršia bišia*, See E. S. Drower, 'A Mandæan Book of Black Magic', *JRAS* 2 (1943), 181, the third of the triad is different and thus they are Bēl, Nabu and Nišra and respectively sundered from *babil* 'Babylon', *burṣippi* 'Borsippa' and *kaškar* 'Kaškar', See J. C. Greenfield, 'A Mandaic Miscellany', *JAOS* 104:1, (1984), 81–82.
- ²⁶ See C. Müller-Kessler & K. Kessler, 'Spätbabylonische Gottheiten in spätantiken mandäischen Texten', *Zeitschrift für Assyriologie* 89:1 (1999), 65–87; E. C.D. Hunter, 'Comparative Perspectives on Šapta d-pišra d-ainia', 122.
 - ²⁷ See O. Abudraham, A Grammar of Early Mandaic, 30 [b4] [in Hebrew].
- ²⁸ Cf. Revelation 1:7, Greek ναί, ἀμήν; See G. Abousamra, 'Syriac Magic and the Contemporary Christian Milieu: Continuity or Discontinuity?' in M. Moriggi, & S. Bhayro (eds), *Studies in the Syriac Magical Traditions* (MRLA, 9) (Leiden: Brill, 2021), 187–201.
- ²⁹ See J. N. Ford, & M. Morgenstern, Aramaic Incantation Bowls in Museum Collections, 107.
- ³⁰ published in G. R. Driver, 'A Magic Bowl', *Revue d'Assyriologie et d'archéologie orientale* (1930), 62.
- ³¹ published in M. Morgenstern, 'Five Mandaic Magic Bowls from the Moussaieff Collection', 111 [in Hebrew].
- ³² published in O. Abudraham, 'An Ancient Mandaic Palimpsest Amulet: An Examination of Three Magic Lamellae', in Sh. Ahituv, H. Cotton & M. Morgenstern, *Eretz-Israel: Archaeological, Historical and Geographical Studies* 34 (Ada Yardeni volume), (Jerusalem: The Israel Exploration Society, 2021), 8 [in Hebrew].
- ³³ published in O. Abudraham, 'An Ancient Mandaic Palimpsest Amulet: An Examination of Three Magic Lamellae', 8 [in Hebrew].

- L.8 vs. ROM 931.4.1:2.14–15;³⁴
- L.10 vs. Pognon 13:14³⁵; IM 114981:45;³⁶
- L.11–13 vs. Moussaieff 26:9.³⁷

3. ĀM.3 (110-S)

The text on ĀM.3 is written in ink in Mandaean script on an unglazed earthenware bowl, the text (in the inner part) is divided into four sections (A:L.1–17, B:18–34, C:35–48, D:49–62). Each section starts from the centre where there is a small circle. The opening lines of each section are thus much longer and have more characters than the end lines which may be only a word or even just the syllables of a word. A large circle has been drawn on the exterior wall of the bowl which has one word written vertically (L.63). There is no demon or drawing on this well-preserved bowl.

ĀM.3's text names a male Bābāy son of Anoš (L.5–6, 51) who is called simply Bābāy (L.49) and his wife Šišig/Šišug daughter of Ābmāg (L. 6–7, 52). Yūkābar-Zīwī (L.35) is mentioned mythologically as the saviour-spirit who wrote the bowl.



Fig. 4 AM. 3 from three perspectives; Photo by AM

³⁴ published in W. S. McCullough, *Jewish and Mandaean Incantation Bowls in the Royal Ontario Museum*, (University of Toronto Press, 1967), 14.

³⁵ published in MIT, 166.

published in E. C.D. Hunter, 'Two Mandaic Incantation Bowls from Nippur', *Baghdader Mitteilungen* 25 (1994), 610.

³⁷ published in M. Morgenstern, 'Five Mandaic Magic Bowls from the Moussaieff Collection', 114 [in Hebrew].

3.1. Text and translation

Transcription	L	Translation			
	Section A				
ــمهه هدی ید هیدمخلهم	1	In the name of Life, may there be binding			
مرجهرس مالجهاب محسم محا–	2	and healing, arming, sealing,			
		guarding for the house,			
مرہدرخی ملرجس مطبع		the dwelling, the residence, the building,			
त्तर, ८०५०५ (८ जर्मभरेपर)		and the threshold of Bābāy son of			
عبره بأه به عهد که که که گهره	6	Anoš and his wife Šišig/Šišug			
vegeti gazer ja		daughter of Ābmāg and for their sons,			
بُ سُهم کِل ه دِطر دِا	8	the males, and for their daughters,			
भूत्सक्० व्यवसम्प	9	the females. I adjure			
_مرحجيجن بيردماه	10	you (pl.) and put			
. ادحسود ن د سرحاً ـ		you (pl.) under oath by Yāhêḇ-êl,			
व्यस्तर वर्षेत्र	12	the angel, by that one			
न्नवस्य कार्ट ८८ न	13	who was appointed over			
کلہ المسام	14	male			
لح، وحطردا	15	gods and			
کماتکه–	16	female			
∽	17	goddesses			
5	Secti	on B			
مطحر عس ۱/د صبح منامجهین	18	by this (bowl). That one			
어느 아니다. 기소 이 아니다. 이	19				
معلک معطا ه دجه مه مرهع	20	between the heaven and the earth and rises			
up					
^o^८५a५ - अध्याप अप्राचित्रस	21	his cry toward that master			
		who sits on the lofty heights.			
— 40A a/cA00 T2 72 acc-	23	If he kneels on his right (knee),			
ە <u>دى</u> سجە ەدسماە بادىجە	24	the gods shout			
ەد ك اس ەدغامكى	25	and the mighty ones groan			
^٥٤/اسطعامه بعدامرده	26	and the angels shake.			
کد کا صاحلہ احم–	27	If he kneels on his left (knee),			
a^ a4a4x4a4	28	the goddesses fall			
०८४५५५० व्य	29	and the amulet-spirits			
− ०सा ०९९० स	30	cry and shout			
ـــەدلكله ــــ		and the Liliths			
aloc纤 arl_					
പ്പോ ച-					
ım.	34	am			
Section C					
	25	37-1-1 /738 T 1:			

प्रवस्ता । प्रवस्ता अत्र Yūkābar-Zīwī³⁸, I adjure

 38 Cf. revised version of ROM 949.94:14 <kbar ziuh> $k\bar{a}bar$ - $Z\bar{\imath}w\bar{\imath}$, See W. S. McCullough, Jewish and Mandaean incantation bowls in the Royal Ontario Museum, 49 [Bowl E].

Transcription	L	Translation
سرجام، حدید سردماه	36	you (pl.) and put you (pl.) under oath
		by the one who is in his splendour and light
باناعلا سرده امط علىلاجع دد	38	who reveals your (pl.) mysteries.
\rf\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\	39	He revealed you (pl.) and set you (pl.)
√۸<۶>۸ ساحباد دد ص۱ عبیه عبیره د	40	to serve me. When I saw you,
הקססט אילאהותאל	41	I wrote you (pl.) and I bound
മ്പപ്പലയെ ¼ <i>%\പ</i> −	42	you (pl.) and I bound
سردمحىمها	43	your (pl.) name
^o^ﺩ ﻣႷ ﻣ牡ႷﻣҰ		
—√ਨਾਜ਼ਹਨ੍ਸਾ		
		you (pl.)
		(in) the gate
44	48	of
S	ecti	on D
محلطــ عس Vد مس دمحمح	49	Bābāy. This is the phylactery
٥٥/س م ١٥٥ مم محاكما ١٤ مســ	50	of Liliths, when they appear
vamv कर्म० त्तर रव्हवर पर व्यव्यस		
~2^x6 ozzelo zateta/zedezed onoh	52	and his wife Šišig/Šišug daughter of Ābmāg
		and their sons, males, and their daughters,
_o<\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\		
		and their property
		and their bread and their water
		and their bed and their pillow
^V14\0<\ncm\nT_		
		and their property.
		The Life
•		(is) victor-
√-	62	-ious.
	Ou	iter
ካረታውዕ	63	I adjure (-).

3.2 Commentary

- L.5, 49, 51: Bābāy is an Aramaic form of Pābag which is a hypocoristic form of *pāpa- as *pāpaka-.³⁹
- L.6, 51: Anoš is an Iranian name, cf. Av. an-aoša- 'immortal' or 'sweet'. 40
- L.6, 52: šišig/šišug possibly consists of Šiš/Šuš 'Susa'+ MP -ig/-ug '-ian' which means 'Susian' or even as a hypocoristic form for Šišin (See commentary of ĀM.2).

³⁹ See P. Gignoux, *Noms propres Sassanides en moyen-perse épigraphique* (Vienna: VÖAW, 1985), 141 [n.723].

⁴⁰ See P. Gignoux, Noms propres Sassanides en moyen-perse épigraphique, 42 [n.101].

- L.7, 52: Ābmāg possibly consists of MP āb 'water' + MP māg which has a relation to the first part of the problematic title of KKZ:10 MKTKY/mktky⁴¹ which Harold Walter Bailey related to mak- 'to immerse, to moisten' and *makata-ka- 'Baptist'.⁴² This can be considered an equivalent to the Parthian <'bšwdg> /abšōdag/ 'the Baptist' from Parthian āb 'water' + šōd 'to wash'.⁴³
- L.5: In addition to the known related words in JBA, Syr and Arabic uskuffah, in Persian the word sakku as well as sakup comes also from the same Greek root i.e., $\sigma \varkappa \acute{e}\pi \eta$. ⁴⁴
 - L.24-26: The triad of Gods, Men and Angels is repeated again.
 - L.32-33: mialala from YLL 'to wail, howl, lament'. 45
- L.49–50: qmaha is also found as a loanword as <qm'hg> / kamāhag/ in the magical texts in Manichaean Middle Persian (M389 & M8430/I/).⁴⁶

3.3 Parallels in other Mandaic bowls

- L.1–49 vs. CBS 2971:1.1–2.2.⁴⁷
- L.1–4 vs. ROM 949.94:1–2;⁴⁸ ROM 931.4.2:1–2.⁴⁹
- L.9-44 vs. IsIAO 5205:4-11.⁵⁰
- ⁴¹ See F. de Blois, 'Naṣrānī (Ναζωραῖος) and ḥanīf (ἐθνικός): Studies on the Religious Vocabulary of Christianity and of Islam', *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies* 65:1 (2002), 6 fn. 31, for different theories about its etymology.
- ⁴² Known as a loanword in Armenian *mkrta-*, *mkrtem* 'to wash (hands), immerse in baptism' as well as *mkrtaran* 'font, baptistery', all from OIr. **makṛta-* 'baptist', See H. W. Bailey, 'Indo-Iranica', *Indologica Taurinensia* (1982), 17.
- ⁴³ The word occurs in the currently available corpus either in plural form or plural noun:
- MKG(663) M4575/V/i/1/ 'bšwd(g'n); MKG(1822) HWP/B/12/ ['b](š)wdg'n) 'baptists'. MKG(11) M1344+M5910/R/1/ ['b](šwd)gyft '*baptist community'. Werner Sundermann considered the word as a MPersianized form of Syriac mnaqqdē (Sg. mnaqqdā > *mmaqqdag > *makdag) which means 'die Sich-Reinigenden' and then translated to Greek ἀποχαθαίρεσθαι and Arabic al-muḡtasila, See W. Sundermann, 'Parthisch 'bšwdg'n, die Täufer', Acta Antiqua Academiae Scientiarum Hungaricae 25 (1977), p. 242.
 - ⁴⁴ In Fars province, Zargān, Dawān and Now-Bandegān use sakkūn.
 - ⁴⁵ See MD, 192.
- ⁴⁶ See D. Durkin-Meisterernst, 'The Apotropaic Magical Text M389 and M8430/I/ in Manichaean Middle Persian', *ARAM Periodical* 16 (2004), 148.
 - ⁴⁷ published in *MIT*, 262 [Bowl 25].
- ⁴⁸ published in W. S. McCullough, *Jewish and Mandaean Incantation Bowls in the Royal Ontario Museum*, 48 [Bowl E].
 - ⁴⁹ Ibid, 29 [Bowl D].
- ⁵⁰ published in M. Moriggi, 'Aramaean Demons in Rome Incantation Bowls in the Museo Nazionale d'Arte Orientale', *East and West* 51:3/4 (2001), 212.

- L.20–42 vs. BM 91774:7–10.⁵¹
- L.58 vs. A.O. 2629:10 & 11.⁵²

4. ĀM.4 (109-S)

The text on this bowl is written in ink in Mandaean script on unglazed earthenware. The text (in the inner part) is divided into four sections which are not symmetrical in size or form (A:L.1–16, B:17–33, C:34–49, D:50–57). The text in each section starts from the centre where there is a small circle. The opening lines of each section are thus much longer and have more characters than the end lines which may be only a word or even just the syllables of a word. Some words are damaged. A large circle has been drawn on the exterior wall of the bowl enclosing two lines (L.57–58) that are a continuation of the text. There is no demon or painting on the bowl which is well preserved but some words are missing.

ĀM.4 is very similar in content to the bowl published by Maria Gorea from a private collection [ĀM.4:1–55 vs. Gorea:3–15], ⁵³ to the extent that one can be used to restore and correct the other.

ĀM.4 contains the names of a male, Pāpā son of Ēmmāy (L.2–3, 58, 59) and his wife Anušay daughter of Lilōy (L.58).



Fig. 5 AM. 4 from three perspectives; Photo by AM

⁵¹ published in *CAMIB*, p. 137 [105M].

⁵² published in *MIT*, 230, 232 [Bowl 21].

⁵³ See M. Gorea, 'Trois nouvelles coupes magiques araméennes', *Semitica* 51 (2001), 73–78.

4.1. Text and translation

Transcription L Translation

Section A

त्तर वर्वे ए वर्गे वर्ष वर्ष

مصبح بسياط كاعتم متنصه

- هارماً مِطحح بس مره دمجري
- ~ 아니 ^ 54 기대는 ~ 이터는
- و ۱۲۵ و محملام جیمامجی دد مهری ^٥٤^دملح دد ١٤٥٥ كالم ١٨٥١
 - دد ودطعطع مرمطصس دد حجمه وحططابحا لبرادس
 - بإرباسك ودسودككامو

 - - - م 14 Atrpān
 - ملبوه ⁵⁷۷– 15 and *Lupān*,

Section B

- مریع کے علامہ در عربہدس دد 17 of the darkness who marched on the
- -ملحس بهدم رحظد مهم م 18 beings with their bows (?) and their forces
- ^o^cyatt oction melater ne 19 سدها[مط] بط مطرِّدس ⁵⁸صبُّمل 20
 - - नव्यः ८८ व्यय्य प्राट्यप्रवर्ग 23

 - اعمد محبحا ساحهعطحن 24

 - व्यद्भ ८४ 27 of the house
 - - νιαρο, ες νιας- 29 own angels,

- 1 May there be healing for the house, the dwelling,
- 2 the residence, the building of *Pāpā* son of
- 3 Ēmmāy. I am the armed
- 4 and well-equipped man, who came from
- 5 the hand of *Abātur* and *Ptāhil* [and not]
- 6 from under the hands of the angels
- 7 of destruction, the mighty ones who
- 8 are called the seven
- 9 planets. I looked
- معطادا عبادات 10 and saw Yurbā,
- عموم دد صررح موجد 11 in the celestial-dwelling of himself,
- ^ه^حاعظة ⁵⁶صاطع 12 with two mighty leading
 - V건너 13 him,

human

- مرومان 16 the angels
 - and ruin the residences. From their [se]
- اکی ساکے دیارے ماکی ساکے they make temple-spirits and from
 - مرح مع محم علام على their pebble-spirits, they settled the temple-

and their lapidation to destroy the houses

- they torment the sons of the Adam
- and persecute the sons of the great family of Life.
- ^صط^مح سادلاطهها 26 They enrage the master
 - _ ചട്ടെ സ്വേഷ്ട്രസ്ത് 28 with their amulets and their
- ⁵⁴ Gorea: 5 بادیسا دد.
- ⁵⁵ Cf. Gorea: 5.
- ⁵⁶ Gorea: 5 ച്യപ്പം
- ⁵⁷ Gorea: 7 معالوم،
- للمسمونية Gorea: 9 ملمسرة الم

Transcription L Translation ⁵⁹مرماح احجسد 30 Yuhabil the angel علام 31 by his breath

امكم 32 injured (س) 33 them

Section C

ਅਟਰੀਨ | ਰੀਜ਼ ਹਮਿਜ਼ਨ 34 and with his rage he raged at them.

ער שלים באנים בי שלייב 35 With steam of his mouth, he snatched up

ومسم ومعمد والمعال 36 the two mighty ones and overturned 37 (and) cast them upon their faces

עקנסלביי עקנקצאצ 39 with your bows (and) your forces

ਅਨ੍ਰਰਵਰਵਾਊਜ਼ 40 and your lapidation

und why have you been sent نكمسد كمواتلمانس

مرح لك 42 against the human-

_ ഷ റഷ്പി ഐ പുറ 43 beings to destroy the houses

രപ്പപ്പ് 44 to ruin

مكردس 45 the residences

سلاميس اكر الحري الكراكي 46 and to remove them from

سدمطيع 47 their dwellings?

سرداعظ عدمت 48 Take your mysteries

1ਵਨਜਾ 49 and receive

ربرجامخانک 50 your oaths

Section D

مرحط مرمضع المردامط الحاطك 51 and reveal your mysteries. With pure vessels

مردېص مطمطاره دد مردمط 52 and sorb cane and a knife

بکمومس علام کے درکے that is all iron, let them put

کا کا کا کا کا کا کا this spell on

_ علام بد محالات العالم علام في من علام the amulet (?) of water and let them bury

ਕੁਦਕੁਦ ਕਮਜ਼ਨ 56 it in the gate,

اکبالا 57 then

ਨਰਜਨਾ 28 in the four

Section E (external part)

रवसर सर वववे पर व्यरेत्य पर वर्षणस्य वमम् वयाया मुक् ८०वम् वसम् -س مطبع معردمكا صادبسع معنصم

०८सनय सम्म जनवीय प्र व्यवस्था 59 corners of the roof, then in the four corners of the residence of $P\bar{a}p\bar{a}$ son of $\bar{E}mm\bar{a}y$, the man, and of Anušay daughter of Lilōy, the woman, and may there be healing to the house, the dwelling, the

دمطے طع مرمری در مرامزی ملز - 60 residence, and the building of Pāpā son of Ēmmāy.

⁵⁹ Gorea:12 مرملح مادحمسد

⁶⁰ **np** is written twice.

4.2 Commentary

- L.2–3: Pāpā either means 'father' or is a variant of Pābāg⁶¹ and 'Ēmmāy means 'mother', and here they represent the personal names of the clients.
- L.18 & 39: bqbnaiun 아스스 보위도 and bqbnikun 아스스 보위도 (Fig. 6) which in its both occurrences in ĀM.4 is preceded by h'la 'force', and is an unknown word. It may be a variant of qamana/qmana 'bow, weapon'. 62





Fig. 6 L.18 b-qbnaiun (left) and L.38 b-qbnikun (right) in ĀM.4; Photo by Ṭannāz 'Aḥadī-Moḡaddam

L.23: msnqilun ساخطرصنا (Fig. 7) vs. Gorea:7 umhʻnqilun ساخطر (SNQ I 'to torment, to torture' rather than HNQ 'to choke, strangle, suffocate' 4.



Fig. 7 L.23 msnqilun in ĀM.4; Photo by Ṭannāz 'Aḥadī-Moḡaddam

L.55: mglata d-mia also occurs in Gorea:15 where it literally means 'a scroll or parchment made of gut or skins' presumably designating the object itself, as a place for writing and at the same time as a water container, hence its translation is 'l'amulette aux eaux'.⁶⁵ It also occurs

⁶¹ J. Naveh & S. Shaked, *Amulets and Magic Bowls: Aramaic Incantations of Late Antiquity*, (Jerusalem: Magnes Press, 1985), 148.

⁶² See *MD*, 401b.

⁶³ See MD, 334a.

⁶⁴ See MD, 151a.

⁶⁵ See M. Gorea, 'Trois nouvelles coupes magiques araméennes', 75–76.

as b-magalta d-mia⁶⁶ in *Qmaha d-Ṣir Sahria* which is actually a scroll and can be compared to magalta d-ṭabia 'scroll of gazelle(-skin)' on some phylacteries (*Zarazta d-Ptahil*⁶⁷; *Šapta d-Pišra d-Sumqa*,⁶⁸ *Zarazta d-Hibil Ziua*,⁶⁹ *Šapta d-Pišra d-Ainia*,⁷⁰ and so on). This was also mentioned in *Zarazta d-Hibil Ziua* (lines 885–886) as qmaha ulmiška d-ṭabia 'amulet and on the parchment of gazelle'. Such occurrences presumably show the source of the Mandaic bowl published by Maria Gorea as well as ĀM.4 in which ṭabia was changed to mia, to copy and write on the bowls but at the meantime the first part i.e., mglata remained. The other possibility is that mia in mglata d-mia means 'entrails, intestines, gut, bowels'⁷¹ (< m'ayyā) rather than mia 'water'⁷² (< mayyā).

L.58: anušai is also attested in Aramaic amulets B3:5 מאאדאראפרי 'Māh-Ādar-Afrāy/Āfrī(d) daughter of Anušay'⁷³ as well as Mandaic Pognon 7:5 anušai pt mhindukt 'Anušay daughter of Mahindukt'.⁷⁴ pt 'daughter of is written as pat which is a rare variant. liluia may be a variant for lilia 'night' and should be read as lilōy (Cf. Dadoy, Duktoy, Farrokoy, Inoy, Mihroy, Miškoy).

⁶⁶ The Comprehensive Aramaic Lexicon, 'Şir Sahra: Qmaha D-Şir Sahra' prepared by Matthew Morgenstern, access date 7/12/2024. URL: https://cal.huc.edu/get_a_kwicchapter.php?file=74715&sub=0&cset=M (line 69)

⁶⁷ The Comprehensive Aramaic Lexicon, 'Phylacteries (zaraziata)' prepared under the direction of Matthew Morgenstern, access date 7/12/2024. URL: https://cal.huc.edu/get_a_kwicchapter.php?file=74714&sub=05&cset=M (lines 193 & 197)

⁶⁸ The Comprehensive Aramaic Lexicon, 'šapta DPišra Dšumqa' prepared by Matthew Morgenstern, access date 7/12/2024. URL: https://cal.huc.edu/get_a_kwicchapter.php?file=74705&sub=&cset=M (lines 316–317)

⁶⁹ The Comprehensive Aramaic Lexicon, 'Phylacteries (zaraziata)' prepared under the direction of Matthew Morgenstern, access date 7/12/2024. URL: https://cal.huc.edu/get_a_kwicchapter.php?file=74714&sub=05&cset=M (lines 599 & 882–883)

⁷⁰ The Comprehensive Aramaic Lexicon, 'Shapta d-Pishra d-Ainia' prepared by Matthew Morgenstern, access date 7/12/2024. URL: https://cal.huc.edu/get_a_kwicchapter.php?file=74716&sub=04&cset=M (line 499)

- ⁷¹ See *MD*, 265b.
- ⁷² See MD, 265a-b.

⁷³ See J. Naveh & S. Shaked, *Amulets and Magic Bowls: Aramaic Incantations of Late Antiquity*, 146, 149–150; Cf. Māh-Ādur-Frāy-Gušnasp, See P. Gignoux, *Noms propres Sassanides en moyen-perse épigraphique*, 109 [n.516]. Naveh & Shaked read the name as Mādar-Āfri, See J. Naveh & S. Shaked, *Amulets and Magic Bowls: Aramaic Incantations of Late Antiquity*, 147–148.

⁷⁴ See *MIT*, 162 [Bowl 4].

4.3 Parallels in other Mandaic bowls

- L.4:1–55 vs. Gorea:3–15.⁷⁵
- L.9–11 vs. BM 117880:8.⁷⁶
- L.9–11 vs. YM 2:16–17;⁷⁷ YM 3:5–6;⁷⁸ Jursa:6–7;⁷⁹ IBC 43:8–10.⁸⁰

5. ĀM.5 (108-S)

The text on ĀM.5 is written in Mandaean script with ink on an unglazed earthenware bowl. The text in the inner part is arranged in spokes, i.e. vertically like sun rays from a large circle in the centre of the bowl and ending at its rim where the lines are enclosed by a single circle. The 'rays'—i.e., the lines of text—are not equal in length. There is no demon or painting on the bowl. The bowl is generally well preserved, however, some words especially in the beginning of the lines are not legible. It seems the writer wrote the text on the bowl with two pens or at two different times, because of the different sizes of some of the letters.

ĀM.5 contains the name of **Dādurmiṣ** son of **Pāyōy** (L.5–6 & 46–47) and his wife (?) **Amistrā**(y) daughter of **Lulāy** (L.7 & 48–49).

In 1999, Christa Müller-Kessler wrote about three Mandaic lead rolls in the British Museum (presumably from 4th-7th CE), which contain early forerunners of ŠPA⁸¹ and later, she pointed out the similarity of some passages between BM 135563 (a JBA bowl in the British Museum obtained from *Kermānšāh*, western Iran) with ŠPA and in general with some parallel sections in the Akkadian incantation series

⁷⁵ published in M. Gorea, 'Trois nouvelles coupes magiques araméennes', 74.

⁷⁶ published in *CAMIB*, 107 [81M].

⁷⁷ published in O. Abudraham, 'Three Mandaic Incantation Bowls from the Yosef Matisyahu Collection', *Lěšonénu* 77 (2014), 84 [in Hebrew].

⁷⁸ published in O. Abudraham, 'Three Mandaic Incantation Bowls from the Yosef Matisyahu Collection', 90 [in Hebrew].

⁷⁹ published in M. Jursa, 'Eine mandäische Zauberschale in Schweizer Privatbesitz', *Archiv für Orientforschung* 47/48 (2001), 146.

⁸⁰ published in G. Abousamra, 'A New Mandaic Magic Bowl', in R. Voigt (ed.) 'Durch Dein Wort ward jegliches Ding! "Through Thy Word All Things Were Made!" 2. Mandäistische und samaritanistische Tagung (Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz verlag, 2013), 56.

⁸¹ See C. Müller-Kessler, 'Aramäische Beschwörungen und astronomische Omina in nachbabylonischer Zeit: Das Fortleben mesopotamischer Kultur im Vorderen Orient', in J. Renger (ed.), *Babylon: Focus Mesopotamischer Geschichte, Wiege früher Gelehrsamkeit, Mythos in der Moderne* (Berlin: SDV, 1999), 431.

named *Maqlû*⁸². James Nathan Ford has also identified a text (presumably an unpublished Mandaic bowl) that 'contains a significant parallel to the list of the eye names found in the ŠPA', while Matthew Morgenstern considered such texts to have a limited value to the reconstruction of the Mandaic text.⁸³

ĀM.5 includes one of the earliest attested parts of šapta d-pišra d-ainia 'The Scroll of the Exorcism of Eyes'⁸⁴ and lines 10 to 52 of the ĀM.5 correspond to lines 501 to 525 of ŠPA attested in DC 29. Comparing ĀM.5 and ŠPA presents the process of transmission, too; some sentences in ĀM.5 are shorter than ŠPA and it demonstrates the intercalation occurred over time, e.g., ĀM.5 has only sdima rather than ŠPA 'sira usdima.

⁸² See C. Müller-Kessler & T. Kwasman, 'A Unique Talmudic Aramaic Incantation Bowl', *JAOS* 120:2 (2000), 164.

⁸³ This information is given in a lecture by Matthew Morgenstern titled 'A New Edition of the Mandaic Evil Eye Spells' in 27th International conference on Jewish studies (Moscow, July 11–13, 2021). In this lecture, the identified text by James Nathan Ford is not clearly mentioned but presumably is a Mandaic Bowl known as D 33 written in a spiral manner and on which 'Farrokzād son of Kumāy and Farroktāy and Sisin-Gušnas and Māhnuš ...' can be read. It has not yet been published.

⁸⁴ First published by Lady Ethel Stefana Drower in two installments in 1937 and 1938 as: E. S. Drower, 'Shafta d Pishra d Ainia', JRAS 4 (1937), 589 ff. and E. S. Drower, 'Shafta d Pishra d Ainia', JRAS 1 (1938), 1 ff. including the transliteration and translation based on DC 21 (1935 CE which is a copy made by Šaik Farağ of an MS dated 1853 CE). Michael Tarelko in 'Shapta d-Pishra d-Ainia: The Scroll for the Purging of the Eyes' worked on DC 21 as well as DC 29 (dated to 1329 AH/1910-11 CE), but this work has not yet been published. In 1998, James Nathan Ford mentioned the similar context of the text and other Mesopotamian traditions and partially translated it, See J. N. Ford, "Ninety-Nine by the Evil Eye and One from Natural Causes" KTU2 1.96 in its Near Eastern Context', in M. Dietrich, & O. Loretz (Eds), Ugarit-Forschungen: Internationales Jahrbuch für die Altertumskunde Syrien-Palästinas (Band 30), (Münster: Ugarit Verlag, 1998), 224-227; later in 2013, Erica C.D. Hunter discussed the text from a comparative view and wrote about the different aspects of it, See E. C.D. Hunter, 'Comparative Perspectives on Šapta d-pišra d-ainia', in R. Voigt (ed.), Durch Dein Wort ward jegliches Ding (Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz verlag, 2013), 117-127. This text was last edited by Matthew Morgenstern who added three other MSS in addition to DC 21 and DC 29 (The Comprehensive Aramaic Lexicon, 'Shapta d-Pishra d-Ainia' prepared by Matthew Morgenstern, access date 7/12/2024. URL: https://cal.huc.edu/get_a_kwicchapter. php?file=74716&sub=04&cset=M), including RRC 3K (1080 AH/ 1669–70 CE) and RRC 1E (1315 AH/ 1897-98 CE) from the Rbai Rafid Collection, as well as MS Berlin (a copy of a MS dated 1231 AH/1815-16 CE).



Fig. 8 $\bar{A}M$. 5 from three perspectives; Photo by $\bar{A}M$

5.1. Text and translation

Transcription		Translation
ودس دد محلامه	1	In the name of Life,
صادسا معنتوه	2	may there be healing
वसम व्यक्ति	3	to the house, the dwelling,
בטקאצי באקצש	4	the residence, and this building
سەكلىككى كەلىككىس	5	of <i>Dādurmi</i> ş
oncd 규사	6	son of <i>Pāyōy</i>
^دملیا^ بره دمطعبه ^{دح} ام	7	and Amistrā(y) daughter of Lulāy.
اجب محک ارجاد محک ہادجاد	8	Restrained (and) exorcized is
مامەرىخ مردە	9	the evil eye,
^°√ڪ حطت محاطبط م√ده	10	the blue eye. Restrained (and)
^oct/\ww 4 0,00 atolat	11	expelled is <i>Tāzātā</i> , the blinking eye.
거이 0건나	12	Restrained is Zāt,
^o^२१८५० व्यस्तरीस व्यट	13	the squinting eye. Restrained is
البرح مرده عادسمكر	14	Niāhit, the corroded eye.
^커^석9억9와 a纤(ᅫထ o라)-	15	Restrained is <i>Šfāfit</i> ,
محاحظت محابطه مهده	16	the diseased eye. Restrained is
^٥^[د]ىلىلس مېدە بادسى	17	$Sr(\bar{a})hit$, the hollow eye.
^4^4	18	Restrained is Skakit u-Nitār,
vo√त्यत्त्रात्तस र्√र०	19	the blackened eye.
صحاح صواح نصبق	20	Restrained is Sām-u-Sup
كه ه صلاع اك سبك	21	the mystery. Restrained is <i>Huq</i>
		-u-Māq, the mystery.
ماحم لامجام جادهم	23	Restrained is <i>Smāk</i> , the mystery.

Transcription	L	Translation
^ه^ مك المحلس كالكم	24	Restrained is <i>Huqṣil</i> , the mystery.
√° √२५ता ० ०त ७२ २५८५०	25	Restrained is 'U-rāzā-u-Rmāz,
১ এ ০ ১	26	the mystery. Restrained is
دد صلىح ەمھطمە	27	the entire root of
ەد ك ن مهمس	28	darkness and black
。스테스 (리스)	29	waters. Restrained is
^o^ <i>പിപ്പ</i> ം ₈₅ ਆ?പുടുപ്പ	30	your counsel and drowned are
المركبامج بعسجا		
		You are bound, you are restrained,
		you are forbidden,
		you are excommunicated,
		you are abrogated, you are shackled,
• •		and you are curbed in the name
عد سمس دد		
		great Rug (?), the eldest
Λ ন্নেত \sim \wedge নেন্ন ι \sim		
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		families of the house of
مرعلاس عادمخات		
		May the darkness be abrogated
		and the light be victorious.
		May there be healing
		for the house, the dwelling, the residence,
		and the building of <i>Dādurmi</i> ṣ
		son of <i>Pāyōy</i>
		and Amistrā(y) daughter of
		Lulāy and their children
ज्यवस्त्रम् ^र ०त्त्र ^१ ।	50	males and females.
		The Life
Vर्रु०	52	(is) victorious.

5.2 Commentary

L.5, 46: Dādurmiṣ⁸⁷ is an Iranian name composed of MP dād 'given/created'+ (h)urmiṣ 'Hormizd' which means 'given/created by Hormizd', cf. Dād-Manda⁸⁸ 'given/created by Manda'.

L.6, 47: Pāyōy, is an Iranian name and a hypocoristic form of OIr. *Pāyu- (Av. pāiiu- 'protector'). Another derivation of this stem

⁸⁵ ŠPA:513 سدمهامدم

⁸⁶ ŠPA:520 & 522 مرح|ب

⁸⁷ See P. Gignoux, Noms propres Sassanides en moyen-perse épigraphique, 72–73 [n.292].

⁸⁸ M. Morgenstern, 'Five Mandaic Magic Bowls from the Moussaieff Collection' 111 [in Hebrew].

is *Pāyu-ka- which attested in Bactrian documents as παιοκο from Afghanistan⁸⁹ and as *Paiukku* in Neo-Assyrian documents from Iraq.⁹⁰

L.7, 48: Amistrā(y) may be a semitic name and combination of Aramaic amat 'servant (f.)'+ 'str' 'Ištar' or 'goddess, female spirit' and together means 'maidservant of Ištar/goddess'⁹¹. It is also attested in Moussaieff 24:10 'mstar⁹² as well as BM 91775:10 & BM 91779:6 as zanai amat 'str Zanay amat istar 'Zanay maidservant of Ištar/goddess'.⁹³ Mandaic בבורב, which is common in Mandaic incantations corresponds to JBA איסתרא, ⁹⁴ The assimilation of t of amat is also attested in BM 91775:10 & 16 as amašamiš Amaššamiš 'maidservant of Šamiš'.⁹⁵

Other possibility is the relation of **Amistrā(y)** to an Iranian name of OP origin i.e., *Amāstrī- which attested in Greek 'Ăμηστρις and possibly has a relation to NB/LB **A-mi-is/si-ri-**' and either means *ama-'strong' + *strī- 'woman' or *ama- 'strength' + *srī- 'beauty' and then respectively 'a strong woman' or '(a female who have) strength and beauty'. ⁹⁶

L.7, 49: Lulāy, Cf. lulita the name given to Simat-Hiia.97

L.8: 'šrit vs. ŠRA I 'to exorcize'.98

L.15: **špapit** drives from ŠPP I/ŠUP II 'to crawl, creep'⁹⁹ rather than ŠPP II/ŠPA I 'to be quiet, smooth, clear, at ease; to cleanse, purify; to relax', ¹⁰⁰ (Cf. mšpwpty & špwpty 'crawler' as a name for some demons). ¹⁰¹

- ⁸⁹ See N. Sims-Williams, *Bactrian Personal Names* (Vienna: VÖAW, 2010), 113 [n.363].
- ⁹⁰ See R. Schmitt, Iranische Namen in semitischen Nebenüberlieferungen (Vienna: VÖAW, 2009), 118–119 [n.100].
- ⁹¹ This name is attested from Old Babylonian period, e.g., in a contract from Sippar-Yahrurum, a woman named *Kunutum* dedicated her daughter to *Ištar* and named her GEME₂.*iš*₈-tar₂ 'Amat-Ištar' (CDLI P386504). Cf. Abdi-Ištar 'servant of Ištar'.
- ⁹² M. Morgenstern, 'Five Mandaic Magic Bowls from the Moussaieff Collection', 111 [in Hebrew].
 - 93 See CAMIB, 115, 116 [86M & 87M].
- ⁹⁴ See J. N. Ford, & M. Morgenstern, *Aramaic Incantation Bowls in Museum Collections*, 77 fn.285.
 - ⁹⁵ See *CAMIB*, 115 [86M].
- ⁹⁶ See R. Zadok, 'Old Iranian anthroponyms and related material in Late Babylonian', *Revue d'Assyriologie et d'archéologie Orientale* 98 (2004), 109–110.
 - ⁹⁷ See MD, 233a.
 - 98 See MD, 474a.
 - 99 See MD, 472b.
 - ¹⁰⁰ See MD, 471b, 472b.
- ¹⁰¹ See J. N. Ford, 'Notes on the Mandaic Incantation Bowls in the British Museum', *Jerusalem Studies in Arabic and Islam* 26 (2002), 249–250.

L.30: mb(a)ția drives from BṬA/BṬY 'to sink'¹⁰² and possibly along with 'thought' means 'to be drowned/sunk in thought', not to represent 'the deep thought' but 'pensiveness' and even 'melancholy'. The other possibility is a scribal error for *mbaṭalia* 'abolished'.

L.38: Instead of aloqued rišaga, which according to Matthew Morgenstern is used in five known MSS of šapta d-pišra d-ainia (including DC 29, RRC 3K, DC 21, MS Berlin, RRC 1E), 103 ĀM.5 used arder rugrba, which may be an equivalent to the earlier word. Ethel S. Drower assumed that rišaga 'chief-lord' was a compound of the Mandaic riš 'head' and Persian aga /āgā/ 'lord, master', 104 but this appears to be incorrect. rugrba may be a compound of rug (?) and Mandaic rba 'great'.

5.4. Parallels in other Mandaic bowls

• L.10–52 vs. ŠPA L.501–525 of DC 29.

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ABBREVIATIONS

OIr.	Old Iranian
MP	Middle Persian
ŠPA	Šapta d-Pišra d-Ainia
MIT	See E. M. Yamauchi, Mandaic Incantation Texts (Michigan: American
	Oriental Society, 1967).
MD	E. S. Drower & R. Macuch, A Mandaic Dictionary (Oxford: Clarendon
	Press, 1963).
CAMIB	J. B. Segal & E. C.D. Hunter, Catalogue of the Aramaic and Mandaic
	Incantation Bowls in the British Museum (London: British Museum
	Press, 2000).

¹⁰² See MD, 58a.

¹⁰³ The Comprehensive Aramaic Lexicon, 'Shapta d-Pishra d-Ainia' prepared by Matthew Morgenstern, access date 7/12/2024. URL: https://cal.huc.edu/get_a_kwicchapter.php?file=74716&sub=04&cset=M (L.519 of DC 29).

¹⁰⁴ See MD, 434b; E. S. Drower, 'Shafta d Pishra d Ainia', JRAS 4 (1937), 610 fn.3.

FIVE EARTHENWARE MANDAIC INCANTATION BOWLS IN $\bar{A}BG\bar{I}NE$ MUSEUM APPENDIX. DRAWINGS OF THE $\bar{A}M$ MANDAIC BOWLS

The following drawings were created by Leylā-Sādāt Sajjādī Hezāve and kindly given to the author by Zohre Moḥammadyān Moḡāyer (Katāyun) of ĀM.

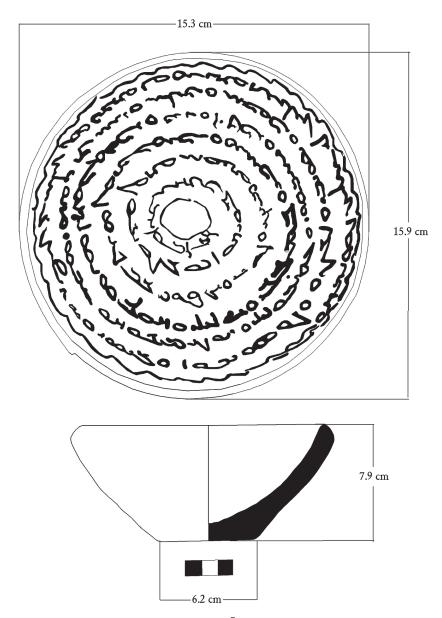


Fig. 9 sketch of ĀM.1 (627–S)

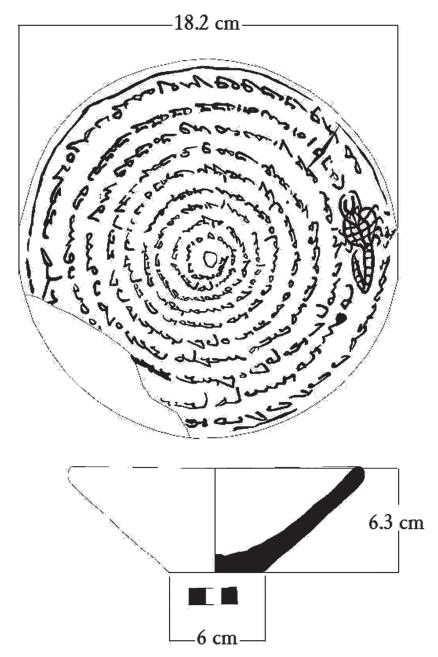


Fig. 10 sketch of ĀM.2 (626–S)

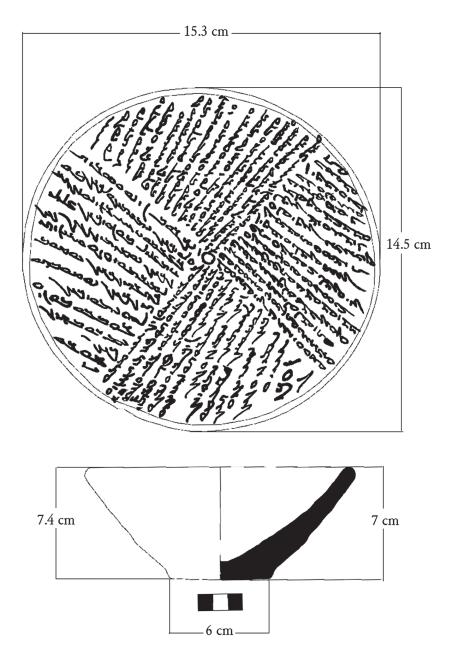


Fig. 11 sketch of ĀM.3 (110–S)

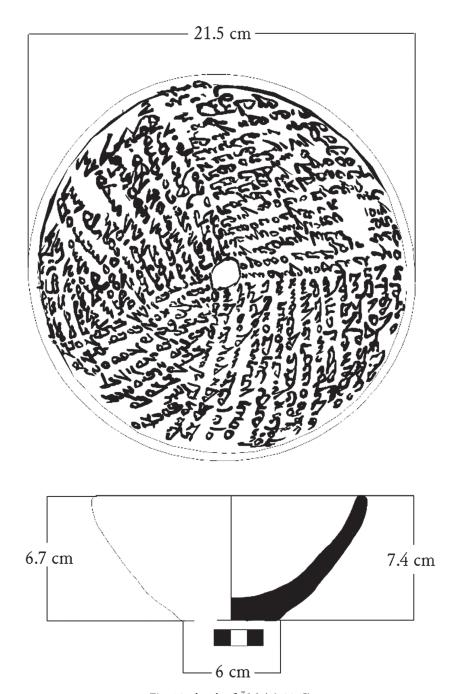
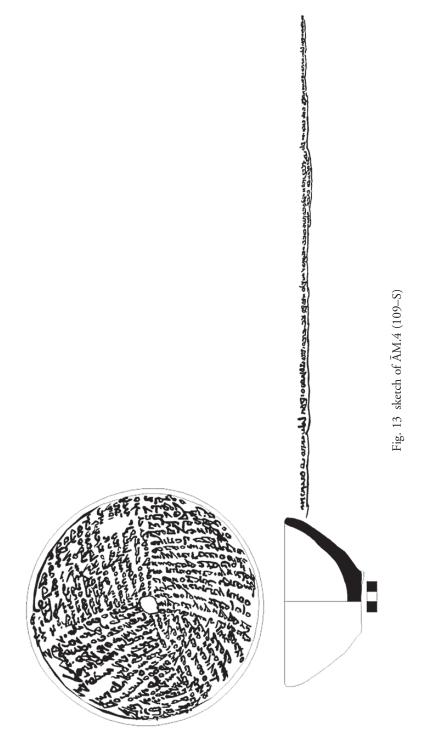


Fig. 12 sketch of ĀM.4 (109–S)



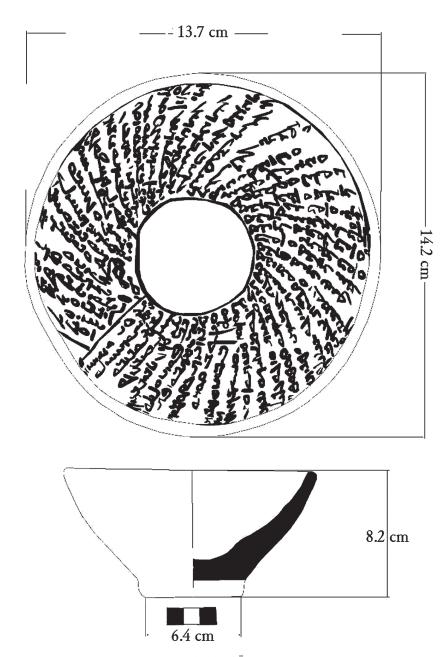


Fig. 14 sketch of ĀM.5 (108–S)